Growing demand for LPG

†2385. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for LPG is growing constantly in different States of the Country;

(b) if so, the demand for LPG in the year 1999-2000 along with the pecentage of demand met, so far, in the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether any basis have been set to decide the percentage of demand to be met; and

(d) if so, what are the said basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated demand of LPG to be met through PSU Oil Companies in the country for domestic and non-domestic use for the year 1999-2000 is 5856 TMT. The demand of the existing consumers registered with distributors of PSU Oil Companies in the country is, by and large, being met fully.

(c) and (d): The annual demand of LPG for the customers of the PSU Oil Companies in the country is estimated on the basis of:—

(i) The requirment of existing LPG customers enrolled with the PSU Oil Companies

(ii) Requirement of new customers planned to be enrolled during the year.

LPG prices

†2386. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in "Business Standard' dated 25th February, 2000 under the caption, Naidu blocked LPG price hike to save Deepak scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government have initiated action to increase the price of LPG;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the selling price for LPG has been kept in two categories at present in the country; if so, what is the selling price in each category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) The Government had decided in November, 1997 that subsidy on Liquified Petroleum Gas (domestic) will be reduced in phases to reach the level of 15% of the import parity price by 2000-01. The subsidy will be transferred to the fiscal budget from the year 2002 onwards.

(d) Yes, Sir. The two categories are:

(a) Domestic LPG under Administered Pricing Mechanism; and

(b) Deregulated LPG outside Administered Pricing Mechanism.

The pricing as on 8 / 3 / 2000 are as under:

Category	Details	Price-Rs. / MT
LPG under APM*	Ex-storage point price excluding duties, sales tax etc.	8732.87 (subsidised price for domestic use)
Other LPG Industrial Bulk	(1) PSU** companies rate (2) Private Importers charge what the market can bear.	17500.00 (Discount apply on commercial consideration) Rate as per market considration.

* APM — Administered Price Mechanism.

** PSU — Public Sector Undertaking.